

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.

September 2009

Dear Friend:

As the 2009-2010 school year kicks off in Michigan, we want to thank you for your commitment to school-based mentoring. Your choice to serve as a mentor makes a meaningful difference in the life of a child and creates a promising future for our youth, our communities, and our great state.

We, as mentors ourselves, understand the time and energy this obligation requires. However, taking the time to lend a listening ear and provide emotional support and guidance can make a difference to a child. That's the great thing about mentoring – caring adults can "pass it on," because devoting a little of yourself to a young person is a valuable gift they will use and cherish every day.

There are more than 3,000 youth waiting to be matched with a mentor in Michigan. We celebrate and appreciate the commitment you have made as a school-based mentor, and we invite you to encourage friends, family members, and colleagues to follow in your footsteps. You can direct them to the program in which you participate or have them choose another program through the Mentor Michigan Web site, www.mentormichigan.org, by clicking on the "Directory of Mentoring Programs" button.

Again, we applaud your dedication to mentoring and appreciate your continued participation during the upcoming school year. We also thank you for helping to "pass it on."

Sincerely yours,

Jennifer M. Granholm

Governor

Daniel G. Mulhern First Gentleman